

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



PARISH

“...the health of a community is a shared responsibility of many entities, organizations and interests in the community, including health services delivery organizations, public health agencies, other public and private entities and the people of a community.”

– Institute of Medicine. 1996. *Healthy Communities: New Partnerships for the Future of Public Health*. National Academy Press. p. 12



St. John the Baptist Parish

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History¹

St. John the Baptist was one of the original parishes, created on March 31, 1807. It was first settled by John Law's German colonists who came down from Arkansas, and by many from the war-torn peasantry of Germany, who formed Louisiana's German Coast.

Culture and Recreation³

St. John the Baptist Parish where ancient Acadian and Creole traditions still abound! Drive by or visit plantation homes, Creole cottages, centuries-old cemeteries and ferry boats located along the Great River Road on both sides of the Mississippi River throughout St. John Parish. Home of the world famous Andouille (aan-doo-wee) sausage, a spicy, smoked local specialty handed down from the 18th and 19th-century ancestors, Christmas Eve bonfires along the levee, and the oldest operating sugar cane refinery in the U.S. (circa 1802). Only 30 miles from New Orleans, St. John the Baptist Parish offers a unique look into its colorful history with swamp tours and antique shops. Annual festivals include the Andouille Festival in October and the Timbermill Museum festival on the fourth weekend in October.



Parish Seat¹ Edgard¹

Major Cities (over 5,000 population)²

La Place CDP*

1990 24,194

1997 (estimate) N/A

Reserve CDP*

1990 8,847

1997 (estimate) N/A

* Census Designated Place

Parish Population²

1990 43,360

1997 (estimate) 42,035

Breakdown of 1996 population (estimates)⁶

White 61%

African American 39%

Other 1%



Male	49%
Female	51%
Population age 0-4	9%
Populations age 65 & over	7%

Geography and Statistics²

Average elevation	15 ft.
Land area in square miles	218.9
Water area in square miles ⁴	129.0

Climate²

Average temperatures	
Annual	69°
January	57°
July	81°
Annual average rainfall	62.2 in.

Labor Force (1995)¹

Civilian	18,900
Employed	17,300
Unemployed	1,600
Unemployment	8.4%

Agriculture¹

Sugarcane

Colleges/Universities²

(within one hour commute)

Nicholl's State University, Thibodaux

Public Libraries⁵ 4

References

- ¹ Louisiana Almanac. 1997. Louisiana Almanac, Pelican Press. Gretna, LA
- ² Louisiana Department of Economic Development. 1999. Louisiana Overview. keyword: overview <http://lde.d.state.la.us>
- ³ Louisiana Office of Tourism. 1998. keywords: regional information <http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism.htm>
- ⁴ Police Jury Association of Louisiana. <http://www.lpgov.org/>
- ⁵ State Library of Louisiana. keyword: directories <http://smt.state.lib.la.us/>

Educational Attainment (1990)⁷

Less than 5th grade	3.6%
High school graduate or higher	71.5%
Some college or higher	33.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher	11.4%

Major Employers (Products) and Number of Employees²

Private Employers	
E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Co. (Rubber)	580
Marathon Oil Co.-LA Refining (Gasoline/Oil/Sulfur)	100
Bayou Steel Corp. (Structural Steel)	425
Public Employers	
St. John the Baptist Parish School Board (Education)	767
River Parishes Hospital (Medical)	250

Poverty and Income

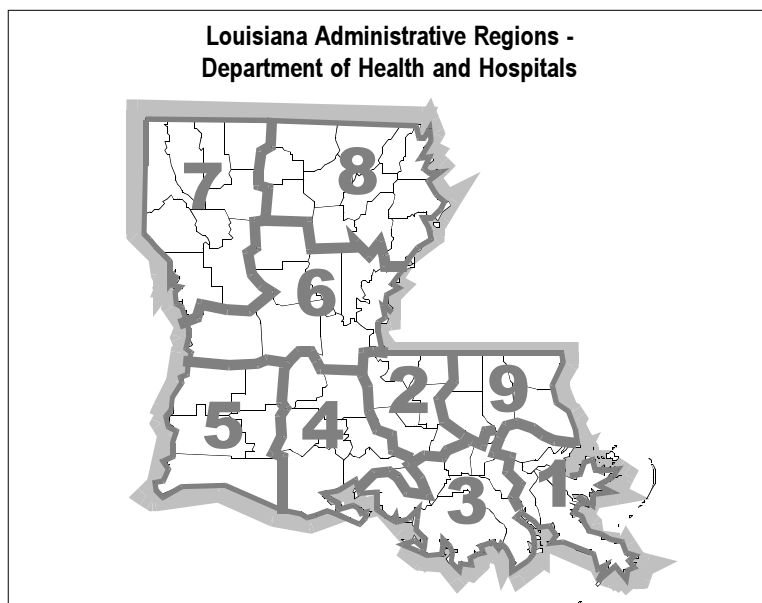
Persons in poverty (1995) ⁷	17.9%
Children under age 18 in poverty ⁷	25.6%
Per capita income (1996) ⁸	\$17,693



⁶ U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. Population Estimates. 1998. keywords: parish name <http://www.census.gov/datamap/www/22.html>

⁷ U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. keywords: people, poverty, small area income and poverty estimates <http://www.census.gov>

⁸ U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. 1999. keywords: economics and statistical administration <http://www.doc.gov>.



Region 1

Jefferson
Orleans
Plaquemines
St. Bernard

Region 2

Ascension
East Baton Rouge
East Feliciana
Iberville
Pointe Coupee
West Baton Rouge
West Feliciana

Region 3

Assumption
Lafourche
St. Charles
St. James
St. John
St. Mary
Terrebonne

Region 4

Acadia
Evangeline
Iberia
Lafayette
St. Landry
St. Martin
Vermilion

Region 5

Allen
Beauregard
Calcasieu
Cameron
Jefferson Davis

Region 6

Avoyelles
Catahoula
Concordia
Grant
LaSalle
Rapides
Vernon
Winn

Region 7

Bienville
Bossier
Caddo
Claiborne
DeSoto
Natchitoches
Red River
Sabine
Webster

Region 8

Caldwell
East Carroll
Franklin
Jackson
Lincoln
Madison
Morehouse
Ouachita
Richland
Tensas
Union
West Carroll

Region 9

Livingston
St. Helena
St. Tammany
Tangipahoa
Washington